

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Air Force Units in Doeberitz

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1. In mid-March 1952, the barracks installation north of National Highway No 103, which runs from Berlin to Nauen, quartered several Soviet Air Force units, mostly ground attack units. The aircraft of the units were stationed at the airfield south of the highway. The Richthofen Kaserne was occupied as follows: eight officers having ranks from lieutenant to colonel worked daily at the MVD building, House No 2. Two majors and one lieutenant, all of whom wore a cluster of gold laurel on their caps, lived in House No 3. The two majors had their offices in House No 19. House No 4 quartered 8 officers, mostly senior lieutenants, all of whom wore pilot insignia. The EM of their unit were billeted in Houses No 27 and 30. House No 5 quartered a major and a captain with their dependents. These officers did not wear pilot insignia and worked in the MVD building. House No 6 quartered a captain and a senior lieutenant who wore pilot insignia. Other personnel observed at the installation included a colonel with pilot insignia having his office in House No 19, a major with pilot insignia who was seen several times in building No 59, and two captains with pilot insignia having their offices in Houses No 32 and 33, all of whom were quartered in House No 7; two paymaster officials ranking as lieutenant and senior lieutenant, wearing silver epaulets and living with their dependents in House No 8; three officers billeted with their families in House No 9; a major who wore silver epaulets and supervised kitchen and depot personnel, a captain who worked in the MVD building, and two senior lieutenants with pilot insignia in Building No 10; 8 to 10 officers without dependents and about 120 men in House No 16; 70 to 80 soldiers of the technical unit to which the soldiers quartered in House 86 d of the NSKK Kaserne also belonged in House No 16 a. The occupants of this house performed maintenance work on aircraft engines in the repair hangar of Doeberitz airfield. In case of alerts, air raid shelter No 15 a was occupied by officers. Classrooms with maps of Western Europe, America and Africa were seen in House No 16 b. Models of Western aircraft, including jet planes were also observed at this house. Other buildings of the barracks installation were occupied as follows:
- House No 18,
House No 19,
- 30 to 40 guards and 10 to 12 junior officers military post headquarters. At 9 a.m., two colonels with pilot insignia coming from Building No 43 would enter the house. One of them was repeatedly seen wearing a flying suit; the other colonel was his deputy. Major Valakhotski referred to the colonel who was seen in a flying suit as chief of

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House No 20,

the military post and saw to it that all repair work in House No 19 was carried out speedily and carefully. Assigned to the headquarters in House No 19 were the battalion of Major Valakhotski and another one commanded by an unidentified captain. aircraft maintenance personnel. At 8:15 on 17 March, 132 soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets, mostly without insignia, were observed in front of this building. A senior lieutenant with pilot insignia was seen with this unit, which at 8:20 a.m. left for the landing field in details of about 25 men, each led by one sergeant.

House No 24,

officers of the battalion commanded by the unidentified captain.

House No 25,
House No 27,

ration distribution point for this unit. service personnel of this unit. At 8 a.m. on 18 March, 24 officers, mostly senior lieutenants with pilot insignia, and 93 EM had fallen in in front of this building. A captain with pilot insignia addressed the unit. At 8:10 a.m., half of the soldiers, who wore padded jackets, marched to the landing field while the others reentered the building.

House No 28,

soldiers of Unit Valakhotski. At 8:10 on 19 March, 93 air force soldiers without insignia were seen in front of the building. They later marched to House No 16 b, led by an officer with pilot insignia. soldiers of Unit Valakhotski. At 8:10 on 20 March, 3 officers and 134 EM had fallen in in front of this building. They were addressed by a captain with pilot insignia. Most of the personnel subsequently marched to the landing field.

House No 31,

20 to 30 soldiers with parachute insignia were billeted on the ground floor. These soldiers repeatedly went to Staaken airfield for parachute practice. Early February 1952 was the last time however. Officers, not identified with the parachutists, lived on the second floor.

Houses No 32 and No 33,

orderly rooms which were guarded at all times.

2. The southern section of the barracks installation north of National Highway No 103, which formerly housed a German motor transport instruction battalion, quartered an air force unit. Personnel observed there included:

House No 54,

16 to 20 officers from the OATB of the unidentified captain.

House No 54 a,

Major Valakhotski with officers of his unit.

House No 55,

about eight officers of the OATB of the unidentified captain.

House No 56,

headquarters of the latter unit.

House No 57,

about 60 Soviet women, who worked as kitchen and office personnel under Major Valakhotski.

House No 58,

500 soldiers and 50 female personnel of the unit of the unidentified captain.

House No 59,

Major Valakhotski's headquarters, to which a political officer, a paymaster, and Lieutenant Atamanov were assigned.

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House No 61, about 400 soldiers of Major Valakhotski's unit.

3. Houses Nos 102 through 110 on Heroldsplatz quartered 17 officers with their dependents. These officers belonged to the two units located in the Richthofen Kaserne. Buildings No 70 and 71 on Hindenburgplatz housed the offices of a headquarters, probably the military post headquarters. All incoming or out-going units or individual personnel had to report there.
4. House No 78 at the former NSSK Kaserne quartered two colonels with pilot insignia. They were daily seen at Houses No 19 and 32. Captain Pavlovski (fnu), a Kech officer, was in charge of Building No 78. One of the two colonels probably was the commanding officer of the second ground attack regiment, while the other one was his deputy. *
5. House No 86 d quartered 76 soldiers who did maintenance work on jet engines at Doeberitz airfield. At 8:10 on 21 March, 68 soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets without insignia were observed in front of this building. A senior lieutenant, who wore silver epaulets, was seen with the detachment. Later, soldiers, who wore padded jackets and green trousers marched in small groups to the airfield. These soldiers and those quartered in House No 16 a are believed to belong to the same unit, as the same engineer officers were frequently seen in the two buildings. Source learned that this repair unit was not assigned to any of the air force units stationed at the field. The service unit was connected with the Soviet aircraft engine and bomb distribution point at the former artillery equipment park in Doeberitz. Piston and jet engines were picked up by the unit at this depot for repair, and the repaired equipment was again turned in there. This procedure was last observed on 20 March.

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Usually truck [redacted] was used for these operations. Repair work on conventional piston aircraft has been done at the field since 1945; the air force depot was established in 1947. Repair work on jet engines was not started before the fall of 1951. About that time, one of the two test stands was rebuilt so as to be suitable for testing jet engines. The perpendicular air exhaust shaft previously available at the test stand for conventional piston aircraft was replaced by a slanting concrete air discharge funnel. Eight Soviet soldiers were repeatedly seen taking a power plant about two meters long and one meter in diameter to the test stand on a special carriage with small wheels. The middle section of the power plant was reinforced. Source could also determine that jet engines were being tested by the peculiar noises he heard. **

6. When Lieutenant Atamanov was asked by Kech workers why he did not wear a cluster of gold laurel around the Soviet star on his cap he replied that this cluster was worn only by pilots. The pilot insignia in the form of wings was worn on the left breast, in gold by officers with clusters of laurel on their caps and in silver by engineer or technical officers who wore silver epaulets. Some of the latter officers also wore the cluster of laurel on their caps. Generally, officers who wear only the Soviet star on their caps, do not wear pilot insignia. A total of 11 engineer officers including 2 majors and 9 captains were observed. They went to the airfield almost daily where they had their technical bureaus and design offices. These engineer officers were assisted by eight lieutenants who wore silver epaulets and were called foremen. ***

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- * [redacted] Comments. The detailed information contained in paragraphs 1 through 4 of the present report refers to the occupation of the barracks installations north of Doeberitz airfield. For layout sketch of these installations and key to the numerical designations of buildings mentioned in the report, see Annex 1. The sketch was made on the basis of four detail sketches furnished by source.

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The data on the occupation of the individual installations mentioned by source were entered in the sketch, different units being marked by different colors. Source differentiates between two units, which he designated as Unit Valakhotski and the unit of the unidentified captain. These two officers are the commanding officers of the OATBs of the two ground attack regiments in Doeberitz. Major Valakhotski, Lieutenant Atamanov, his supply officer, and the supply officer of the other OATB, Captain Pavlovski, were previously known. From the description of insignia and some other observations made by source it is possible to differentiate the air units from their OATBs. The units located in Doeberitz include the headquarters of a ground attack division; two ground attack regiments; two OATBs and one ATR; a service unit which is connected with the jet engine repair shop at the former artillery equipment park in Doeberitz; a small detachment of parachutists whose presence in Doeberitz cannot be explained; and a military post headquarters. The installations of the Richthofen Kaserne include: offices and dwellings of the ground attack headquarters, marked in brown on the attached sketch. The division commander, a colonel, was called military post commander by source. His deputy was also a colonel. Orderly rooms, quarters and school buildings of the two ground attack regiments are marked in blue and red on the attached sketch; offices and dwellings of IVD officers are marked in green; quarters for airborne technical personnel of the jet engine repair shop at the artillery equipment park are marked in yellow; quarters for a parachute detail are marked in violet; Administrative and utility buildings whose assignment to a specific unit could not be determined are marked in black. The installations available at the former NSSK Kaserne include billets and administrative buildings of the two ground attack regiments; billets for technical personnel; garages and a motor vehicle repair shop. The barracks installation of the former motor transport instruction battalion comprises billets, administrative buildings and garages used by the two OATBs of the ground attack regiments and probably also of one airport ground company (ATR). The buildings on Heroldplatz west of the barracks installations were occupied by married officers of the two ground attack regiments with their dependents, while the buildings at Hindenburgplatz are believed to serve as billets and offices of the military post headquarters. These buildings appear on the sketch. A total of about 200 air force officers, 1,500 EM and 130 female personnel were observed by source in the installations. On the assumption that at least 20 percent of the personnel were not observed and making allowance for the fact that the technical personnel are employed at the jet aircraft repair shop at the former artillery equipment park and that the parachutists, the personnel of the military post headquarters and the female personnel do not organically belong to the ground attack regiments or their ground units, this figure would correspond to the previously estimated authorized strength of the air force units reported, i.e.:

1 ground attack division headquarters including signal personnel:	about 200 men;
2 ground attack regiments including ground personnel:	about 700 men;
2 OATBs including signal personnel:	about 700 men;
1 airport ground company (ATR):	about 100 men;

Total: about 1,700 offi
NCOs and EM.

25X1A ** [REDACTED] Comment. The existence of the jet engine repair shop at the artillery equipment park in Doeberitz was known previously. It had previously been reported that the personnel of this installation was quartered in the barracks installations of the ground attack division. It is believed that the repair shop unit is subordinate to a central agency of the Twenty Fourth Air Army.

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*** [REDACTED] Comment. It is believed that most of these engineer officers belong to the repair shop unit working at the former artillery equipment park. Those officers who work in the drafting offices at the field are probably not assigned to the ground attack division. Some of the officers mentioned may belong to the two ground attack regiments.

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Legend:

1. Razied low wooden building.
2. PVD building, a three-story house with four barred one-man prison cells in the basement.
- 3, 4 and 7. Houses with about five rooms each, occupied by two officers each.
- 5 through 10. Billets for Soviet officers and their dependents.
- 11 through 13. So-called hotels occupied by bachelor officers.
14. Offices of the Kech I through IV, Elstal.
15. Gymnasium.
- 15 a. Concrete air raid shelter.
16. Billets for 8 to 10 bachelor officers.
- 16 a. Billets for 70 to 80 soldiers of a technical unit.
17. Garages for eight trucks and two sedans.
18. Guard house, 30 to 40 soldiers, and billets for 10 to 12 junior officers.
19. So-called garrison buildings.
20. Quarters for soldiers, probably ground personnel.
21. Kitchens and mess halls, separated for the two units.
22. Storage facilities for the cooperative shop.
23. Officers billets.
24. Billets for officers of the unit of the unidentified captain of the OATE.
25. Food storage facilities for the unit of the unidentified captain.
26. Coal dump.
27. Billets for the soldiers of the unit commanded by the unidentified captain.
- 28 through 30. Billets for Unit Major Valakhotski. Messenger pigeons were kept in house No 30.
31. Billets for 20 to 30 parachutists and officers.
- 32, 33. Orderly rooms of the two units.
34. Officers' club.
35. NCO club.
36. Finnish steam bath, the installation belongs to the Flak Kaserne.
37. Razied low wooden building.

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38. Dispensary.
39. Razed low wooden building.
40. Telephone exchange.
41. Barber shops.
42. Transformer station.
43. Two-family house quartering two colonels who are assigned to the military post headquarters.
44. Boiler house with two flats used by transient officers.
45. Billets for soldiers of the OATB commanded by the unidentified captain.
46. through 53. Not listed.
54. Officers' billets; 16 to 20 officers of the unit commanded by the unidentified captain.
- 54 a. Officers' billets occupied by Major Valakhotski and officers of his unit.
55. Officers' billets; eight officers of the unidentified OATB.
56. Billets for headquarters personnel of the unidentified OATB.
57. Billets for female Soviet personnel who are apparently assigned to the unit commanded by Major Valakhotski.
58. Quarters for EM of the unit commanded by the captain, an estimated 500 soldiers and 50 female Soviet personnel live here.
59. Billets for the headquarters personnel of Unit Valakhotski and the offices of Major Valakhotski, his political officer, paymaster, depot officer, and Lieutenant Atamanov, a Kech officer.
60. Kitchen for Unit Valakhotski.
61. Billets for EM of Unit Valakhotski; about 400 men.
62. Motor vehicle repair shop, carpenter and paint shops, lathes.
- 63, 65, 67 and 69. Garages for trucks, occupied to capacity.
- 64, 66, 68. Garages and armory belonging to the unit located in the Flak Kaserne
69. Officers' and EM kitchen.
- 70, 71. Military post headquarters.
72. Guard house; three soldiers.
73. Branch of the cooperative shop.
74. Officers' billets.

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75. Quarters for guard personnel and classrooms for radio operators; four radio masts, each 20 to 25 meters high, were observed.
76. Officers billets.
77. Officers billets and billets for 15 female personnel.
78. Billets for two colonels of the unidentified OATB.
79. Officers billets.
80. Storage facilities and kitchen for the unidentified OATB.
81. Officers billets.
82. Kitchen and mess hall for Unit Valakhotski.
83. Outpatients' clinic, pharmacy and dentist.
- 83 a. Garage for trucks.
84. Transformer station.
85. Motor vehicle repair shop and depot.
- 85 a. Garages occupied by about 10 tank trucks, two of which are in operation.
- 86 a. Swimming pool.
- 86 b. Ration supply room for Unit Valakhotski.
- 86 c. Aircraft engine depot.
- 86 d. Billets for 76 soldiers who work in the jet engine repair shop at Elstal airfield.
87. Unidentified.
- 88 through 101. Not listed.
- 102 through 110. Dwellings occupied by 17 officers and their dependents. The officers are assigned to the two units located in the Richthofen Kaserne.

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